

We claim:

1. A fiber optic splitter package comprising:
 - a housing;
 - 5 a fiber splitter assembly disposed within the housing; and
 - a flexible retainer member contacting and retaining at least a portion of the fiber splitter assembly within the housing, said flexible retainer member having a modulus of about 30 to about 80 measured on the Shore A hardness scale.
- 10 2. The fiber optic splitter package of claim 1, wherein the housing has a passageway and the fiber splitter assembly is disposed within the passageway of the housing.
3. The fiber optic splitter package of claim 1, wherein the flexible retainer member comprises silicone.
- 15 4. The fiber optic splitter package of claim 1, wherein the housing is generally oval in cross section.
5. The fiber optic splitter package of claim 1, wherein the housing is generally 20 rectangular in cross section.
6. The fiber optic splitter package of claim 1, wherein the housing is generally circular in cross section.
- 25 7. The fiber optic splitter package of claim 1, wherein the housing has a top portion and a bottom portion.
8. The fiber optic splitter package of claim 1, wherein the flexible retainer member prevents the fiber splitter assembly from contacting the housing.

9. The fiber optic splitter package of claim 1, wherein the housing is made from stainless steel.

10. A method for retaining a fiber splitter assembly within a housing comprising:
5 disposing the housing in a holder;
inserting the fiber splitter assembly into the housing; and
introducing a flexible retainer member into the housing and around the fiber splitter assembly, the flexible retaining member substantially contacting at least a portion of the fiber splitter assembly, and said flexible retainer member having a modulus of about 30 to about 80
10 measured on the Shore A hardness scale.

11. The method for retaining a fiber splitter assembly of claim 10, wherein the flexible retainer member is introduced as a fluid.

15 12. The method for retaining a fiber splitter assembly of claim 11, further comprising the step of curing at least a portion of the liquid flexible retainer member prior to introducing the remaining portion of the liquid flexible retainer member.

20 13. The method for retaining a fiber splitter assembly of claim 12, further comprising the step of curing the remaining portion of the liquid flexible retainer member.

25 14. The method for retaining a fiber splitter assembly of claim 10, wherein the step of inserting the fiber splitter assembly includes holding the fiber splitter assembly relative to the housing such that the fiber splitter assembly does not contact the housing before and after the introduction of the flexible retainer member.

15. The method of retaining a fiber splitter assembly of claim 10, wherein the holder holds the housing with at least one magnet.

16. A fiber optic splitter package having a housing, said fiber optic splitter package comprising:

a fiber splitter assembly inserted into a passageway in said housing without contacting the housing; and

5 a resilient retainer member formed around the fiber splitter assembly contacting at least a portion of the fiber splitter assembly and defining at least a partial buffer zone between the housing and the fiber splitter assembly within the housing, said flexible retainer member having a modulus of about 30 to about 80 measured on the Shore A hardness scale.

10 17. The fiber optic splitter package of claim 16, wherein the fiber splitter assembly includes optical fibers extending therefrom, and wherein said optical fibers do not include an S-bend formed therein.

15 18. The fiber optic splitter package of claim 17, wherein the fiber splitter assembly includes a plurality of optical fibers extending from a first end thereof and a single optical fiber extending from a second end thereof opposite the first end.